(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government on the basis of the recommendations made in the above Report; and

(c) if not, by when the Report of the Committee is likely to be submitted to Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Report is likely to be submitted by the end of December, 1986.

Survey on small scale sick units

679. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has recently been made by Government of the small scale units which have fallen sick;

(b) if so, what is the result of that survey; and

(c) whether it is proposed to provide Central aid to the sick small scale units for their rehabilitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. A diagnostic survey regarding sickness in the small scale units was conducted in 1982-83 by Office of the Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries. The report of the Survey was published in October, 1985.

(b) According to the survey, 6.1 per cent of the units surveyed were found to be sick. The main causes of sickness as revealed by the survey were imbalances in investment and financial structure of units due to heavy investment in fixed assets and greater reliance on borrowed capital, shortage of raw-materials, inadequacy of working capital, marketing and labour problems.

(c) A number of measures to contain the spread of sickness and rehabilitation of sick units in the small scale sector have been taken up by the Government. The Reserve Bank of India have issued guidelines/instructions to the Commercial Banks for revival of sick units and to consider grant of need-based credit facilities on concessional terms. The RBI, IDBI and the scheduled Commercial Banks have set up Special Cells to tackle problems associated with sick industrial units. Government have constituted State Level Inter Institutional Committees to render assistance to sick units in a coordinated manner. Measures for facilitating the growth and updating technology of small scale industries, extension of institutional network for providing necessary back-up support, consolidation and improvement of workshop facilities, setting up of process and product development centres and field testing stations have been taken. The Central Government have introduced a Margin Money Scheme to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in revival of sick small scale units. The scheme is under review.

Removing of restrictions from capacity expansion by industrial units

680. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently removed restrictions on capacity expansion by industrial units in the country on the ground that the goods produced by the units are meant for export; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the decision taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Having regard to the need for increasing exports of various products of industries covered by the First Schedule of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act. Government had in March, 1981, exempted licensed/registered industrial undertakings from obtaining substantial expansion licences in respect of capacities in excess of the licensed capacity provided such additional capacity is entirely for exports. This facility was subject to the conditions that the item is not reserved for exclusive production in the small scale sector and the industrial undertakings do not instal additional machinery, indigenous or imported for achieving the excess production. Following a review of the policy in this connection, Government had decided to do away with the restrictive conditions in the interest of augmenting export production.

Appointment of acting judges

681. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the acting Chief Justices and acting Judges of the various High Courts in the country as on the 31st October, 1986;

(b) the reasons for which they have been so appointed; and

(c) the time by when they are likely to be given regular appointments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As on 31st October, 1986 Shri Justice Gangadhar Ganesh Sohani was functioning as Acting Chief Justice in the Madhya Pradesh High Court. No appointment of Acting Judge has been made by the Government.

(b) Appointment of Acting Chief Justice in the Madhya Pradesh High Court was made when the Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court was transferred as Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court.

(c) Appointment of permanent Chief Justice in the Madhya Pradesh High Court is engaging the attention of the Government. It is, however, not possible to indicate the time by which it will be made.

Writing off of losses of public enterprises

682. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision to write off the accumulated losses of some public enterprises under his Ministry;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and the objectives behind this move;

(c) what are the names of the public enterprises whose accumulated losses are proposed to be written off by Government; and

(d) the amount which is proposed to be written off in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In the Department of Public Enterprises, in the case of Jessop & Co. Ltd. and Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd., decision has already been taken to write off accumulated losses as detailed below in order to improve their financial viability.